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NOTE

THE Mayor's Committee on commemorative exercises in connection with the completion of the Catskill Aqueduct, to be celebrated October 12, 13, and 14, having requested the historical, scientific, and art societies and museums to mark the occasion by appropriate exhibitions in their galleries, the Metropolitan Museum of Art has arranged to show its group of paintings by the artists who, full of appreciation for the beauty of the country along the banks of the Hudson River and within the region of the Catskill Mountains, so identified themselves with these sections as to gain the name of the Hudson River School. Engravings of the works of these artists will be shown at the same time at the New York Public Library.

This collection of pictures, besides reminding us of the debt we owe to the men who gave us our most characteristic national art, will take on the value of historical documents through their record of changes brought about by the creation of large bodies of water where formerly were woods

and meadows. In this connection, a certain interest attaches to the fear expressed by William Cullen Bryant, the laureate of this region, in his poem called: An Indian at the Burial-Place of his Fathers.

“Before these fields were shorn and tilled,
Full to the brim our rivers flowed;
The melody of waters filled
The fresh and boundless wood;
And torrents dashed and rivulets played,
And fountains spouted in the shade.

“Those grateful sounds are heard no more,
The springs are silent in the sun;
The rivers, by the blackened shore,
With lessening currents run;
The realm our tribes are crushed to get
May be a barren desert yet!”

The fear was unfounded. Science, of which the Indian knew nothing, has triumphed over nature, and in the Catskill Aqueduct has created Art, as well as a blessing to mankind for ever.